Message Text

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E. O. 11652: N/ A TAGS: ELAB, FI

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE FINNISH METALWORKERS VISIT ON LABOR

EDUCATION

REF: IRONS/GOOTT LETTER OF FEBRUARY 21, 1973

- 1. DEPARTMENT HAS CONSULTED AFL- CIO AND SPECIFIC UNIONS MENTIONED REF LETTER AND HAS FOUND THEM TO BE RECEPTIVE TO IDEA OF SUCH A VISIT. ERNIE LEE, FOR EXAMPLE, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR AFL- CIO INTERNATION DEPARTMENT ASSURED EUR LABOR ADVISOR HE WOULD BE PLEASED TO ARRANGE VISIT TO AFL- CIO LABOR STUDIES CENTER AND TO FACILITATE CONTACTS WITH LABOR EDUCATION SPECIALISTS OF INDIVIDUAL AFL- CIO AFFILIATES. SIMILAR AFFIRMATIVE RESPONSES, IN PRINCIPLE, FROM IAM AND UAW.
- 2. DEPARTMENT SUGGESTS THAT BEST FOLLOW- UP STEP WOULD NOW BE FOR METALWORKERS UNION TO COMMUNICATE DIRECTLY WITH U. S. UNIONS CONCERNED EXPLAINING NATURE OF PROPOSED STUDY VISIT, TIMING, ETC. IN THIS WAY UNION TO UNION CHARACTER OF VISIT CAN BEST BE STRENGTHENED. ALTHOUGH DEPARTMENT BELIEVES IT MOST UNLIKELY THAT U. S. UNIONS WOULD BE IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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POSITION TO " TAKE ON THE PROJECT" FINANCIALLY, AS REF LETTER SUGGESTS, THEY WILL WANT TO BE AS HELPFUL AS THEY CAN UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES. DIRECT CORRESPONDENCE WOULD

THUS ALSO PERMIT FINNS, IF THEY SO WISH, TO RAISE FINANCIAL ASPECTS WITH THE U. S. ORGANIZATIONS. IN ADDITION TO LEE AT AFL- CIO HEADQUARTERS, BEN SHARMAN IAM GRAND LODGE REPRESENTATIVE FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS AND HERMAN REBHAN, INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS DIRECTOR FOR UAW, WOULD BE APPROPRIATE POINTS OF CONTACT.

3. ON QUESTION OF U. S. GOVERNMENT FUNDING ASSISTANCE,
ONLY STATE'S INTERNATIONAL VISITOR PROGRAM WOULD OFFER
POSSIBILITY, ALONG LINES SUGGESTED IN REF LETTER. LABOR
DEPARTMENT CONFIRMS IT HAS NO FUNDS FOR SUCH PURPOSES. ROGERS

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^{***} Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

^{***} Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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